Iniunctions geuen in the visitatiō of the Reuerend father in god Edmunde, bishop of London, begunne and continued in his Cathedral churche and dioces of London, from the thyrd day of September the yere of our Lorde god, a thousand fiue hundreth fifty and foure, vn till the .viij. daye of October, the yeare of our Lord a thousand fiue hundreth fifty and fiue then nexte ensuyng.

Irst, that the parsons vicars and curates of euerye parishe and other priestes hauyng cure of soule within the diocesse and iurisdiction of London, shal obserue keepe and performe accordingly (as it concerneth euery of them) with all diligence, to the vttermoste of theyr powers, all and syngular lawes statutes ordinaunces constitutions and commaundementes, whiche sens the coronation of our soueraigne lady Queene Mary, hath been and hereafter shalbe made, set foorth, and promulgate, for a decent and godly order to be had obserued kepte and continued in the churche and clergy of England.

¶ Item that they and euery of them shall reade ouer and diligently study the boke and treatise named and intitled A profitable and necessary doctrine with certayne homilies, adioyned thervnto, lately made and set foorthe by the saide Bysshop of London for the in-

ſtruction and inforꝛmation of the people beeyng of his dioces of London, and of his cure and charge. And the contentes of the ſame they ſhall declare to the people in their paryſhe churches, that is to witte, vpon euery ſonday and holy day, one chapiter as ſhal ſeme moſt neceſſary and conuenient, and as the tyme ſhall require, vntill the whole contentes of the ſame booke be throughly and orderly declared vnto them, onleſſe any laufull impediment ſhall chaunce to be, vpon any of the ſayd ſondaies or holydaies. And after the readyng and declaryng of all the ſayd booke and the Homilies, then to begyn agayn at the beginnyng of the ſame booke, and ſo from tyme to tyme.

¶ Item that the ſayde perſones vicars and curates ſhall truely and ſyncerely declare ſet foorthe and inſtruct the people the true meanyng of the ceremonies of the churche: as That the geuyng of holy bread is to put vs in remembrance of vnitie, and that all chriſten people be one myſticall body of Chriſt, like as the bread is made of many grains, and yet but one loafe, & that the ſayd holy bread is to put vs alſo in remembrance of the houſell, and the receyuyng of the moſte bleſſed body and bloud of our ſauiour Jeſu Chriſte, whiche the people in the begynnyng of Chriſtes churche dyd oftener receiue, then they do vſe nowe in theſe daies to doo. Alſo, that bearyng of candels on Candelmaſſe daie, is doone in the memorie of our ſauiour Jeſu Chriſte, the ſpirituall lyght, of whom ſainct Symeon dyd prophecie, as it is redde in the church that day. Alſo, that the halowed aſhes gyuen by the prieſt to the people vpon Aſhewedneſdaye is to put the peo-

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ple in remembrance of penance at the begynnynge of Lent, and that their bodies ar but earth dust & asshes.

Also that bearyng of palmes vpon Palmsonday, is to put them in remembrance, and to renue the memory of receyuyng of Christ into Hierusalem before his death and passion. Also that the crepyng to the crosse on good fryday, signifieth an humblyng of our selues to Christe before the Crosse, and that the kissyng of it, signifieth a memory of our redēption, made by Christ for vs vpon the crosse. Also that the geuyng of holy water, is to put vs in remembrance of the sheadyng and sprinklyng of Christes bloud vpon the crosse for our redemption: and also to put vs in remembraunce of our promyse made to Christe at the tyme of oure baptisme, and that as we wash our bodies, so we shuld not forget to washe and clense our soules, with vertuous godly and good lyuyng. Also that the bearyng and caryeng about of the Pax in the church at masse tyme is not only to put the people into remēbrance of the peace that Christ bequethed to his disciples, but also of that peace, that Christ by his deth purchased for the people, & also of ỳ peace which Christe wold haue kept betwene God & man, man and man, and man to hymselfe. Moreouer we wyll and enioyne to them, and eueryche of them, that they or their curates. iiii. tymes in the yeare at the least, shal declare vnto their parisheoners, as well these as also the signification and true meanyng of all the other laudable and godly ceremonies and rites vsed of old tyme in this churche of Englande to the beste of their power, in suche sort, that the people may perceyue what is mente and

syguifyed by the same. And also knowe and vnderstand howe and in what maner they ought to vse and accept theim, for their owne edifyeng.

¶Item that no preest whiche hath ben maryed or taken for maried, or hath been suspected of herely or euyll religion or opinion, and not yet reconciled, shall be admitted to any benefice, or to serue any cure within the sayd dioceese and iurisdiction of London.

¶Item that no preest commyng out of an other dioces, shalbe admitted or suffred to serue any cure within the sayde dioces or iurisdiction of London, vntyll he doo shewe and exhibite before the bysshop of London or his chauncellour or commissary, not onely his letters of orders, but also letters testimonialles of commendation of his good behauiour, and honestlyuyng, vnder the seale of the bysshop or other ordinary, in whose dioceese or iurisdiction he immediatly before dwelled and inhabited in.

¶Item that euery person or vicar being absent from his benefice shall leaue a sufficient honest & able preest to serue his cure, and to minister the sacraments and sacramentalles, and otherwyse to do his dutie there, as appertayneth.

¶Item that euery person vicar and curate, doo in all poyntes the best he can to minister decently, reuerently, and deuoutely, the sacramentes and sacramentalles, and to celebrate diuine seruice, so that therby the people maye the more rather be earnestely moued to come vnto the churche, and deuoutely to heare and see the same.

¶Item that all and syngular persons vicars curates

tes, and other prieſtes, of what eſtate and degree ſo euer they bee, dwellyng or inhabityng, or hereafter ſhall dwell or inhabite within the ſayde dioceſſe and iuriſdiction of London, ſhall from hens forth vſe and weare cõuenient and decent prieſtly apparell and habite, hauyng their beardes and crounes ſhauen accordyngly, wherby they may be eaſily knowen and decerned at all tymes from the laye people, and to be of the clergie: and thus vnder the paines as they & eueriche of theim intende to auoyde and eſchue the penaltie of the lawes prouided and eſtablyſhed in that behalfe.

¶ Item that euery curate aſwel in his preachynges, ſermons & collatiõs made vnto the people, as at other tymes neceſſary, ſhall perſwade exhort and monyſhe the people beyng of his cure, what ſo euer they bee, to beware and abſteyn from ſweryng and blaſphemyng the holy name of God, or any part of Chriſts moſt holy precious body or bloud, and alſo to abſtain frõ ſweatyng by the maſſe, or other like things, declaring vnto them what a high and godly thing the maſſe is, & how the maſſe ought to be taken eſtemed and honoured of al chriſten people with al the circũſtances of the ſame. And likewiſe to perſuade exhort & admoniſhe the people to beware & abſtain frõ curſyng, bannyng, chiding ſcolding, backbiting ſclãdring & lieng, & frõ talking & tãgling in ỹ church, ſpecially at ỹ time of diuine ſeruice or ſermõ time. And ſẽblably to abſtein frõ adultry, fornicatiõ gluttony & dzũkẽnes. And if thei or any of thẽ be found notoriouſely fauty culpable or infamed of any of the ſame crimes or offẽces, & vpon admoniſhmẽt geuẽ to thẽ by their curate, wil not amend & reconcile

themselues, then the curate shall detecte theim to the bysshop, archedeacon, official, or commissaries, at euery their visitations or sooner, as the case shall require: so that the said offenders may bee duely corrected and reformed of the same, to the example of other.

¶ Item that no prieste from henseforth doo haunt or resorte to ale howses or tauernes, otherwyse thenne for his honeste necessitie and relefe, or dooe repaire or frequent any dicyng houses, common boulyng alleys or any other suspect houses or places, or do haunte and vse cõmon or vnlaufull games or plaies, or otherwise behaue them selues vnpriestly or vnsemely as they and euery of them wyll eschue and auoyde the daunger therupon.

¶ Item that no parsone vicar or other priest, hauyng cure of soule within the sayd diocesse and iurisdiction of London shall frome henseforth permitte suffre or admitte any maner of person what soeuer he bee, vnder theestate and degree of a bisshop, to preach or make any sermon or collation openly to the people, within theyr churches, chapelles, or elswhere, within their cures (onlesse he that shall so preache, haue obteyned before, a speciall licence in that behalfe, eyther of my lord Legate, now beyng in this realme, or of the archbisshop of Cantorbury, or of the said bisshop of Lõdon, & the sayd licence so obtained, shal then and there really bryng forth in writyng vnder seale, and shewe the same vnto the sayd person vicar, curate or priest, before the begynnyng of his sermon, as they wyll auoyd the extreme penalties of the lawes statutes and ordinances prouided and establyshed in that behalf, if they at

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any tyme presumptuously doo or attempt any thyng to the contrary.

¶Item that euery parson vicar curate or other priest hauyng cure of soule, doo vpon the sonday at seruyce tyme sette forth and declare vnto the people, all such holydays and fastyng days as of godly vsage and laudable custome heretofore laudably hath ben accustomed and vsed to bee kepte and obserued in the weeke next folowynge and ensuyng, and to admonische and exhorte the sayd people to obserue and kepe the same, & to come and resort vnto their parische church vpon the Sondais and holy daies, to heare their deuine seruice according to their bounden dueties.

¶Item, that the Parsone or vicar do repaire, maintain, and kepe his chauncell and mansion house, in sufficient reparacion: and (the same beyng in decaie) shall bestowe yerely the fiste parte of the value of his benefice, vpon the reparacions therof, till suche tyme the same shalbe sufficiently repaired.

¶Item, that finally euery Parsone, Vicar, Curate, and other priest, shall truly and faithfully fulfill, kepe and obserue, all maner of lawes, statutes, constitucions, iniunccions, ordinaunces, commaundementes, and decrees heretofore made, prouided, established, and ordeined, standyng in effecte, for the decente and godly order to be vsed, obserued, & kept in the churche and clergie of England, and shall cause the same to be obserued, fulfilled, and kepte of other, beeyng of their cure and charge, as farre as in theim shall lie, accordyng to their bounden dueties, and as thei will aunswere for the contrary.

Con-

Concernyng the laitie.

FIrst, that the churchewardeines, and pa-rishoners of euery Parishe, within the dio-cesse and iurisdiction of London, shall of their owne coastes and charges, find, kepe, and mayntayne, a conuenient and decente holy wa-ter stocke, or potte to bee sette at the entree of the churche, or within the churche dooze, for holy water to be put and kept in the same from tyme to tyme. Also a Legend, an Antiphener, a Graile, a Psalter, an Or-dinal, to saie or solempnise diuine Office, a Missale, a Manuell, a Processionall, a Chalice, twoo Cruettes, a principall Vestimente with a Chesable, a Vestimēt for the Deacon and Subdeacon, a Cope with the ap-purtenaunces: It is to witte, an Amisse, a Girdle, Stole, and Fannon, the high Altare, with apparell in the fronte, and other partes therof, three Towelles, three Surplices, a Rochette, a Crosse for Procession, with Candelsticks, a Crosse for the dedde, an Insen-cer, a Shippe or vessell for frankēsence, a litle sanctes belle, a Pixe, with an honest and decente couer, and a Vaile for the Lente, Banners for the Rogation weke Belles and Coapes, a Beere for the dedde, a vessell to cary holy water about, a Candelsticke for the Paschall taper, a Font to chrisien childrē, with couerynge, and a Chrismatorie for holy oyle and Chrisme, bothe to be kepte vnder locke and keye. And generally all other thynges, whiche after the custome of the countrey or place, the parisheners are bounden to finde, maintain and kepe. And the premisses, and euery of them, to bee doen and prepared, before and on this side the feast of

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the Natiuitie of our lorde God this present yere. 1555. as thei will aunswere for the contrarie.

¶ Item that holy dayes and fastynge dayes heretofore vnlaufully abrogated be kepte, as they were before the abrogation of the same.

¶ Item that all laudable and honest godly ceremonies heretofore vsed in the churche of Englande, bee hereafter vsed obserued and frequented.

Item, that the churchewardeins and parisheners of euery parishe, dooe cause to bee made, prepared and set vp in their Churche, before thesaied feast of the natiuitie of our Lorde, a decente and semely Crucifixe, with the Images of Christ, Marie, & Jhon, a Roode lofte, as in tymes past hath been godly vsed, and accustomed of olde auncient tyme.

Item, that the churchewardeines euery yere, shall make a faithfull and true accompt, and reaconyng to the parisheners, of all the Churche plate, iewels, ornamentes, and other gooddes belongyng to the churche, bringyng in with them an Inuētarie in writyng of thesame, and euery parcell therof. And also procure and cause the Albes and Vestimentes, belongyng to the churche, to be kept cleane, and well and sufficiently repaired and mainteined, and dooe in al suche other thynges, as on their behalfe are to bee dooen, and apperteineth.

¶ Item that the parysheoners doo dewely come to theyr owne parysshe churches, and there to heare all dyuine seruice, and to make theyr confession at the accustomable tyme or tymes, to theyr own curate, and not to bee receyued or admitted of any other curate

without speciall lycence.

¶ Item, that notwithstandynge, the custome commonly vsed, especially emonges the yong people, and other euill disposed persones, in resortyng vpon the Sondaies and holy daies, and moste of al, at the time of diuine seruice and preachyng the woorde of God, vnto tauernes, alehouses, or other suspect and inconuenient places, and in goynge a huntyng, haukyng, or bearebaityng, or in hauntynge and exercisynge other games, playes, disportes, or vpon fayned occasions, eyther vppon the euen before, or the same sondayes or holydayes in the mornynge, goyng foorthe abroade out of their paryshe churches into the fieldes countrey, or other where, or onely pretendynge suche tourneys, secretely kepyng them selues in theyr houses, and absteynyng to come to their paryshe churche to heare and see diuine seruice, as they ought and are bounden to doo. Euery man woman and chylde beyng of the age of. xiiij. yeres, and aboue, beyng of the sayd dioceese and iurisdiction, shall from henseforth come to their parishe churches vpon the sondays and holydayes, and there contynue and remayne in prayer, and godly meditations all the tyme of diuine seruice. oneles they shall be letted by sycknesse, or some other lawfull impediment.

¶ Item that the churchewardeyns and paryshoners of euery parishe aforesaid, at their costes and charges, shal prouide a cõuenient boke of Register, wherin the parson vicar or Curate, there shall write the day and yeare of euery weddyng, christenyng, & burieng made within theyr parishe for the tyme beyng: also the names

mes of euery person that shalbe wedded, christened, or buried from tyme to tyme, and for the safe keepyng of the same boke, the said Churchwardeins and parishoners, at theyr cõmon charges, shall prouide one lure Coffer with two lockes and keyes, whereof the one to remayn with the Curate, & the other with the Churchewardeins, wherin the said booke shall be layd vp and kept, which boke shal euery sonday be taken forth and in the presence of the sayd wardeyns, or one of them, shall be wrytten and recorded in the same, all the weddynges, christenynges, and burienges, made the whole weke before, and that doone, to lay vp the sayd boke in the sayd Coffer, as afore, accordyng as it hath been prouyded and establyshed heretofore.

¶Item that the paryscheoners of euery paryshe, shal without any stryfe, contention, discorde, or debate, especially in the tyme of diuine seruice vppon the Sonday or holydaye, quietly and modestly vse and behaue them selfes in the churche, as well for sittyng in their pewes or seates, as in goyng in procession, kyssynge of the Paxe, and for euery other cause or matter, whiche myghte bee to the sclaunder or vnquietnes of the reste of the people.

¶Item that all Curates bee dyligent and ready in visytynge theyr paryscheoners beynge sycke, and doo gyue vnto theym godly exhortation and counsayle, and to induce theim to make theyr testament or last wylle, and to remembre the pooze, and especially to sollicite for the mayntenaunce of the hospitalles of the citie of London, and fynally to make them selues readye to Goddes pleasure.

¶ Concernynge Archedeacons of the dioceſſe of London.

1 IFrſt that they & euery of them within theyr ſeuerall archedeaconries do faithfully truly readyly and diligentely haue reſpecte to their cure and charge, and ſo execute and doo their office and duetie, as by the lawe or by the cõmandement of their ordinary the byſchop of London, thei in any wiſe be bounde to doo, vnder peyne of depriuation of their archedeaconries.

2 ¶ Item that thei and euery of them within their ſaid ſeuerall archdeaconries doo receyue and execute faithfully truely and diligently, all ſuche cõmandementes as they and euericho of them ſhal at any time receiue from their ordinary the biſchop of London, and likewiſe certifie the ſaide ordinarie of the receite and execution of the ſaide commandementes, vnder the pain aforeſaide.

3 ¶ Item that they and euery of them within their ſaid ſeuerall archdeaconries & in all places of the dioceſſe of London, do in theyr ſermons that they ſhall make hereafter, prayse as is conteyned in the vniforme order for the byddynge of the Beades, lately ſet fooreth by me Edmond the byſchop of London, and alſo do vſe obedience and reuerence vnto their ordinarye, as they and euery of theym ought to doo, vnder the peyne aforeſayd.

4 ¶ Item that they and euery of them within their ſaid ſeuerall archdeaconries, doo prouide and ſe, that in al Maſſals, Portaſſes, and all other eccleſiaſtical bokes

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vsed for seruice in the Churche, the Popes name bee restored and placed agayne in euery of theim as they were wont to bee, and lykewyse the name of the blessed martyr Sainct Thomas of Canturbury, and of all other that heretofore in any wise haue been commaunded to bee restored and placed, vnder the payne aforesayd.

¶ Item that thei and euery of them within their said seuerall archedeaconries, do faithfully truly and diligently enquire and certifie their ordinary, what persons or vicars are not resident vpon their benefice, or haue let out their benefice without the licence and consent of their ordinary, how many benefices be impropered, and also how many ecclesiasticall promotions or churches ar now vacant, or els wanting a curate, or not hauynge ecclesiasticall seruice as they ought to haue, vnder the peyne aforesayde.

¶ Item that thei and euery of them within their said seuerall archdeaconries doo faithefully truely and diligently sette forthe the booke intitled, A necessarye and profitable doctrine, with certaine Homilies. &c. made of late by the bysshoppe of London, and so also cause the same to bee put in execution in all poyntes within their sayde seuerall archedeaconries, vnder the payne aforesayde.

¶ Concernynge an vniforme order in byddynge of the Beades.

FOr as muche as prayer is a thynge muche commended, yea and commanded in scripture, and almyghty god greatly deliteth in it, eyther priuately made, eyther elles publikely, but chiefely publikely made with good deuotion, and charitie, tendynge to the honoure of God, or the wealthe and profite of our euen christen. And finally for that we be all bounde by scripture, and by reason also, one of vs, being membres of the churche, to pray, in a due order, for the other, beyng membres of the same (whiche in dede they and we are, not onely so longe as we are here liuynge in this worlde, but also after that we in the faithe of Christe, be departed hens) meete and conuenient it shall bee, that christen people, assemblynge in the churche, doo vnfeynedly agree in prayer, and the publyke minyster to vse his peculiar office, agreably to the principles and groundes of oure christen relygion. For whyche purpose, beyng desirous that all parsones vicars and curates within my dioces of London, shoulde kepe a decent vniforme fashion or trade in praiyng, and bidding of the Beades, within their seuerall cures, I haue caused for my sayd dioceſſe an order and maner to be sette foorth therin, that the sayd parsons vicars and curates dooyng their dueties in that behalfe within their said cures, may praie and exhort other to pray, orderly for all estates, as they be bounde. And the order is this as here nowe dooth folowe.

YE shall pray for the catholike church of Christ, dispersed throughoute the whole worlde, and for the three estates of the same, that is for the spiritualtie, the

the temporaltie, and the soules departed this world, in the faythe of Christe, abydinge the mercy of God, in the paynes of purgatory. And in the first parte I dooe commende vnto youre good deuotion, the good estate of oure moste holye father the Pope, Paule the fowerth of that name, with the whole Colledge of Cardinalles, and especially the moste vertuous, learned, and godlye man, the Lorde Cardinal Poole Legate de Latere here in this realme. Also all archbyshoppes and byshoppes, especially your Ordinarie and Diocesan, the byshoppe of London, and all other that haue anye cure or charge of soules.

And in the seconde parte I doo commende vnto your good deuotion, to pray for the prosperous and happy estate of all christen realmes, and especially for this Realme of Englande, and all the dominions of the same. And herein, accordyng to oure moste bounden duetie, for the Kynge and Queenes moste excellente Maiesties. It is to witte: Kynge Philyp, and Queene Mary, by the grace of God, kyng and queene of Englande, Fraunce, Naples, Hierusalem, and Ireland, defendours of the fayth, Princes of Spayne and Sicilie, archedukes of Austria, dukes of Mylan, Burgundie, and Brabant, countes of Hapspurge, Flaunders, and Tyrolles, beseechynge almyghtye God contynuallye to assiste and ayde them in all theyr affayres and godly doynges, gyuyng theym their noble and good heartes desyre therin, and to sende vnto vs of theyr bodyes moste ioyfull and comfortable fruite and issue, to the great glorye of God, their worthy honoure, and the quietnes,

etnelle, tranquillitie, and prosperitie of this whole Realme, and domynyons of the same, with all the faithefull subiectes thereof, grauntynge vnto vs the prosperous and saufe retourne of the kynges moste excellent Maiestie, bothe nowe, and at all tymes els, when his sayd Maiestie shall be absente from vs.
And in this parte also ye shall pray hartyly, and deuoutely for the moste honourable councell of theyr Maiesties, and all the nobilitie, and the whole cōmons of this Realme, and domyntons thereof.
Thirdely and lastely, ye shall praye for all the soules departed in the faith of our sauiour Jesus Christe, especially for the kynges and queenes moste noble progenitours and auncesters, beyng departed in the Catholike faithe of Christ: For this, and for all christen soules, and for grace necessary, I desyre you hartyly to say, a Pater noster, and an Aue Maria.

¶ Concernynge schoolemaysters and teachers of chyldren.

ITem, that euery scholemaysters or teacher of chyldren, whether it bee Englysshe or Latine, or teachers of chyldren to synge or playe, or suche lyke, bee sober and discrete, of honeste and vertuous lyuynge, conuersation, and behauioure, with other good and commendable qualyties, so that they may edify and profyte theyr scholars, as well by their lyuynge, conuersation, good maners, as by theyr techyng. And that from henceforth they do diligently apply their scholars

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teachyng and hearyng theym often, discretely vsyng theim, and teachynge theim onely suche bookes as bee not in any wyse forbydden within this realme to bee taught.

¶Item that schoolemaysters of any sorte be not admytted, tyll they bee by their ordynarye, or by his auctoritie examyned and allowed, and that they beyng so admytted, doo teache theyr scholars amonges other honest and lawfull thynges, to helpe the preest at masse, to saye theyr Pater noster, their Aue Maria, their Crede, the. x. commaundementes, and to saye grace, prayeng for the kyng, the queene, the counsell, the whole Realme, and for all Chrysten soules.

¶Concernynge Mydwyues.

¶Item, that euerye woman of the dioceese and iurisdiction of London, that nowe dooeth, or hereafter shall occupie or exercise the office and roume of a Mydwyfe, shall bee faythefull, sobre, dilygente, discrete, and readye to healpe euery woman trauaylynge of chylde, as well the poore as the riche, and shal not vse or exercise any witchecrafte, charmes, sorcerye, inuocations, or praiers, other then suche as be allowable and may stand with the lawes & ordinances of the Catholike churche. And shall cause the chyld beyng new borne, to be brought to the churche with conuenient speede, there to be decentely, reuerently, and orderly baptised, and the mother therof after the conuenient time accustomed, likewyse to be purified, accordyng to the

olde auncient and godly ceremonies and custome of the catholike Churche heretofore vsed in that behalf. And doo otherwyse vse and behaue her selfe honestly discretely and diligently in all thynges appertainyng and belongyng to the office and duetie of a Midwife, ¶ All and syngular whyche Iniunctions shall bee inuiolably obserued and kepte of all Parsones, Vicars, and other benefyced or promoted persons, vnder the payne of suspension, excommunication, and sequestration of the fruites of theyr benefyces, and depriuation of the same, and suche other coherction, as to the sayde Bysshoppe of London their Ordinary, shall be seene conuenient and necessary, at all tymes, as the case shall require.

¶ Imprinted at London in Paules churcheyard, at the signe of the holy goste, by John Cawood, Printer to the Kyng and Queenes highnesses.

Anno Domini. M. D. LV.
4. Octobris.

Cum priuilegio Regiæ maiestatis.

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